

Dear FCC Commissioners & Staff:

My name is Andrew Kinney and I am the president and CTO for Advantagecom Networks, Inc., a small regional ISP in Walla Walla, WA.

In Walla Walla, there is only one LEC, Qwest (formerly USWest). Qwest does not provide Internet access in Walla Walla, WA in any form, nor do they have plans to deploy anything in Walla Walla.

They are already very anti-competitive even though they refuse to service this town. It has made it difficult for us to deliver the services that our customers demand.

Most ISPs in Walla Walla have decided to deliver broadband Internet access via wireless, but the number and size of trees in the area make wireless broadband in the ISM band difficult to deliver at best. Many residents of the community have resigned themselves to poor-quality dial-up Internet access as a result.

There is only DSL oriented CLEC servicing our area, but their prices are higher than Qwest's prices, though Qwest doesn't service this area with DSL.

We would just get the CLEC status from the state ourselves and pursue the DSL broadband market, but concern over the future regulatory nature of such a proposition has not made it a viable option. If the regulations change in favor of the LEC, any CLEC could potentially be faced with very unsavory options - go out of business or pay the LEC their highway robbery prices. And that assumes that the LEC won't just toss the CLEC

Sincerely,

Andrew Kinney  
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